

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested. This Amendment should be entered under Rule 116 because it places this application in condition for allowance.

At the outset, Applicants appreciate the indication that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are withdrawn.

Regarding the rejections of claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. §101, claims 1 and 19 are amended and are believed to be patentable over the applied art for the reasons discussed below.

As amended, independent claims 1 and 19 recite a computer system executing a method that generates questions answerable by an expert, the system introducing compensation rules in a decision tree that originally has no compensation rules, fuzzifying the compensation rules, deducing the values of a set of rules used to determine a decision; and outputs the decision result to a user. Support for these amendments can be found at the paragraph beginning at least page 15, line 34, that describes a real world application of the recited decision making process to determine the passing or failing of a student based upon two examinations.

Applicant respectfully submits that the use of a computer system to host the claimed method would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of decision making processes, especially expert systems based at least partially on fuzzy logic. Such a method is neither an abstraction, nor an algorithm, nor software, per se, requiring both input and output interfaces for communicating with a user.

Applicant therefore submits that because claims 1 and 19 recite a practical application wherein a physical transformation transforms inputted data to a decision result presented to a user, the rejection of claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. §101 is overcome.

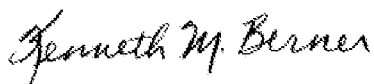
All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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